Oocket No.: 50212-132

**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Application of

Customer Number: 20277

Tetsufumi TSUZAKI, et al.

Confirmation Number: 7978

Serial No.: 09/667,576

Filed: September 22, 2000

For:

September 22, 2000 Examiner: S. Cumm.

OPTICAL AMPLIFIER AND OPTICAL AMPLIFICATION METHOD

SEP 2, 3 2003

TON DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS OF 3600

Mail Stop IDS Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee.

## REQUEST TO CONSIDER REFERENCES AFTER CLOSE OF PROSECUTION AND BEFORE PAYMENT OF ISSUE FEE

The undersigned hereby requests consideration and entry of this Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying references under 37 CFR 1.97(d).

Please charge the processing fee under 1.17(p) of \$180.00 to Deposit Account 500417.

## **CERTIFICATION PARAGRAPH**

The undersigned certifies that, to the best of his knowledge, each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement as described in 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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